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If such conditions prevail in one institution which is fondly supposed to be a model one, are there not probably others? Now that the combined efforts of the nurses and the women's clubs are influencing legislation for the betterment of conditions in almshouses, why cannot something be done to enforce legislation which has already been enacted, in behalf of the children who are cared for in separate institutions?

M.

A SUCCESSFUL CENTRAL REGISTRY

DEAR EDITOR: As the subject of establishing successful central registries seems to be one that is taking up the thought and time of nurses and nurses' associations all over the country, I should like your many readers to know what the nurses of Kansas City have done along this line.

The Kansas City Graduate Nurses' Association established a central directory last July; from the beginning it has been self-supporting. The directory is in charge of an experienced registrar and is governed by the executive board and three members of the association (nurses doing private duty). The registrar receives a salary of \$75 per month.

At the end of our first six months we have not only regularly paid the salary of the registrar, but all bills for telephones, printing, and current expenses have been paid and we have a balance of \$38 in our treasury; this does not mean the treasury of the association, for the finances of the directory and association are kept entirely separate. Both nurses and physicians unite in voting the central directory a success.

From the beginning we have had the earnest and loyal support of the superintendents of the various hospitals and training schools. The nurses have put school feeling aside, and have worked nobly for a common cause.

When plans for the central directory were discussed, it was voted by the nurses to make the directory fee sufficient to enable the directory to be run in the most efficient way possible. A fee of \$10 per year, payable semi-annually, was voted. It was also voted to devote any surplus over and above running expenses to the establishing of a benefit fund for sick members.

To be eligible to the directory privileges, a nurse must be a member of the Kansas City Graduate Nurses' Association. We have 222 members in the association and a directory list of 125. We have averaged 125 calls per month. Our out-of-town calls are steadily increasing.

We trust that our small measure of success may encourage those who hesitate.

MENA SHIPLEY, R.N., Secretary.

PRIVATE DUTY PROBLEMS

DEAR EDITOR: I have proven to my satisfaction that in caring for my patients during the day, they do remarkably well as a rule. I have also proven that if I keep myself in good condition by coming home to sleep in a good bed in a comfortable room, and by getting my morning bath and a good breakfast (the living even among the rich in this country is not always what would be called good for a person who works, in your country) that my work is not so arduous and that the patient does better. As I compare the patients cared for in this way with those equally as sick for whom I have cared in the past, I can see that they did not do nearly as well when I was not working under